

# THE ARCHWAY

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May 20, 2000

Bryant College, Smithfield, RI



## 2000 Commencement Issue



# From the President

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Dear Graduates:

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your special day today, marking your graduation from Brant College! It also is important at this time of celebration for us all to thank you directly for your many contributions to Bryant and to our community. So a heart felt thank you and congratulations from my wife Katie, myself and the rest of the Bryant community!

It is a very rich and exciting time to be entering the professional world and I am very confident that your time at Bryant has you well prepared for your future endeavors. Your hard work during your time here will go far in assuring your ability to achieve your best personally and professionally. I am excited with the thought that your future contributions and successes in the professional world, as well as in society at large, will be even greater than the wonderful successes we celebrate today.

You now join our ever-growing alumni family of over 37,000 illustrious professionals throughout the world that all share your high standards of excellence and commitment to profession and community. We are anxious to learn of the adventures that await you and the accomplishments that we know you will achieve. It is through this tie that you will always be a member of the larger Bryant family.

Our hope is that you will be back soon and often to see the many changes that will be taking place at your school and to enjoy the great accomplishments of future student bodies in the way that we all share a pride in your accomplishments today. Bryant has benefited from your unique contributions as a student and you are the beneficiary of an extraordinary education. This relationship is a life long one and becomes part of the foundation of excellence that the classes that follow you will continue to build on.

Welcome to the rich tradition of excellence and service that marks the Bryant College graduate. Everyone at Bryant—faculty, staff, and trustees—joins me in expressing our pride in your achievements and our warmest wishes for your continued success!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ronald K. Machtley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "R".

Ronald K. Machtley  
President

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## The Archway Commencement Staff

**Co-Editor-in-Chief Publishing:** Andrea Piccarelli  
**Co-Editor-in-Chief Business:** Adam Fontaine  
**Staff Writers:** Elizabeth Ryan, Leanna Mansour, Allison Zitta, Julianne Piccirilli, Erica Nadeau, Amy Thistle, Molly Devanney, Brian McCarthy  
**Advisor:** Mike Janicki

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## Linking the Tradition of Bryant

Other than receiving diplomas on Commencement day, students have another way of symbolizing completion of their Bryant education: they walk under the Archway.

The Archway, located just over the bridge, may seem like merely a fixture to outsiders, but to students at Bryant, its tradition is legendary.

For years, as students passed by the Archway, they have walked around its iron gates. Even if they did not fully understand their behavior, no one wanted to break tradition.

The story of the Archway dates back to 1905. Isaac Gifford Ladd, an associate of Charles Schwabb and a famous U.S. Steel tycoon, constructed a \$1 million building which contained the iron arch on Young Orchard Avenue on the East Side of Providence.

This building was meant to be a sign of his endearment to his newlywed wife. However, his wife immediately expressed hatred for this structure in her name. Taking this as a personal rejection, Ladd took his own life.

The property remained unoc-

cupied until Thomas Marsden transformed it into Hope Hospital. In 1935, Bryant-Straton College was renamed Bryant College. To provide more space for classes, an addition was constructed and Hope Hospital was renamed South Hall.

Earl S. Tupper, inventor of Tupperware, donated his twenty-two acre hillside estate to Bryant College in October 1967 for the creation of the new campus. To thank Tupper for his generous gift, Bryant named the campus after him and awarded him an honorary degree during the 1968 Commencement exercises.

Four years later, in the fall of 1971, the campus moved to Smithfield. Prior to leaving the Hope Street Campus, the wrought-iron arch at the entrance to South Hall was transported to the new campus. Today, the Archway remains the only physical link to the Providence campus.

Frank Delmonico, then Vice President of Business Affairs, and Robert Hillier, architect of the Tupper Campus and designer of the new sign for the front entrance, relocated the arch between the two ponds en route

to the Unistructure.

Immediately after the Archway was transferred from the old campus, students began to avoid passing through this out-of-place structure.

As rumor had it, walking through the Arch before graduation mysteriously jeopardized chances of graduating. Since this is quite a large price to pay for not following tradition, most students opted not to take the chance, which resulted in worn paths around the arch.

After seventeen years of worn paths, the graduating class of 1987 left a brick pathway around the sacred arch. This path encourages students to avoid walking through the Archway until their graduation day.

This tradition has shaped the behavior of thousands of Bryant College students on Tupper campus for the past twenty-seven years, and will continue to shape more in the years to come.

As Bryant students, we will never forget all of the days we walked around the Archway, waiting for the day when we could finally walk through it.



The butterflies I experienced in my stomach as I approached the registration table at Freshmen Orientation during the summer of 1996 are as vivid as if it were yesterday. I forced a smile as I attended session after session of what would soon become familiar icebreakers. I maintained an eager and outgoing personality throughout those two days with a real desire to run towards the familiarity of home. My real fear was not of unhappiness at my first choice college, but of being unsuccessful. I left high school with a concrete goal and feared I lacked the intelligence and strength to achieve my ultimate dream.

As I carried boxes and crates to 2 North, I also carried that same fear from orientation. This fear was also masked with a smile but with each introduction to the girls I would soon call friends I fought back tears. For the first few weeks of this life changing experience called freshmen year, I clung onto the memories of friends from home and refused to give myself emotionally to these new women I spent every waking moment with. As time went on and the bags of Twisslers

myself grow and prepare for my lifetime dream of studying abroad. The memories I brought with me to Spain of my time at Bryant were full of dancing, bedtime stories, and laughter that seemed to never end. The five months I spent in Spain now seem like a dream. The excitement and frustration of adapting to another country was accompanied by endless conversations in cafes and pubs, rides on a metro that will never leave my mind, and relationships I will cherish for a lifetime. Sharing my experience with a childhood friend made each day bearable as I struggled to understand the language. Each endeavor was a team effort and the strength of our relationship is one we will appreciate throughout our lives.

Returning home from the constant days of excitement abroad was the most difficult adaptation I experienced. The next year was a roller coaster ride of emotions. My new perspective on the world only made my life more difficult as I finished my last year at Bryant. I questioned my purpose and course in life everyday as I

disappeared I found myself laughing without even realizing it. My struggle to separate myself from home ended in May with the goodbye tears of leaving Bryant for the summer.

In the next year at Bryant I felt as though I was watching

## Dreams

*By Elizabeth Ryan*

watched my college years slip through my fingers. On December 15<sup>th</sup> I finished my last final exam of my education at Bryant College. As I walked out the door of my apartment for the last time I smiled at my success with tears of sadness in my eyes.

These past four years have proven to me that my parents instilled values in me that I am thankful for everyday. I have gotten everything I could ask for out of these last four years because I was true to myself and I followed the path I choose. I am thankful most of all for my family's support and enthusiasm in everything I have done. I am also fortunate to have two lifelong friends, Jen and Shannon, whose encouraging words have taught me to always follow my dreams. Most importantly I am thankful to my mother for traveling on this bumpy road with me and allowing me to spread my wings and fly.

Each of the friends I have made here at Bryant, past and present, will always hold a place in my heart. I would like to thank my dearest friend Amy for her long hours of listening and understanding. My greatest appreciation goes to the Peer Educators for their courage and kind hearts. I am thankful for the past eight months, which have enabled me to work with the most inspiring group of strong women; each has truly made a mark on my life. Finally, I would like to express my utmost gratitude to Doris for continuing to challenge me and teaching me the most important lesson of planting seeds.

Class of 2000, may you too run after your dreams and always stay true to yourselves.



# “Hold On To Your Dreams...”

By Leanna Mansour

Four years ago, I walked upon this campus as a quiet, shy, independent, girl. Today, I walk away from Bryant College as a strong, outgoing, motivated woman. I have been inspired by many people over the past four years, which has caused me to grow as a person. I came to Bryant College holding on to a quote that says, “The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.” Eleanor Roosevelt was correct in saying that. If it weren’t for dreams, many of my positive experiences would not have occurred. I came here dreaming that I was going to leave in four years impacting at least one person’s life. In turn, I have been impacted by many, which helped motivate me to reach out to others by becoming involved in various organizations.

Peer education was one of the best organizations I was involved with during my four years here. To my fellow peer educators, I don’t know what I would have done without you. You have encouraged me to do my best in everything and to never give up. Each of you has contributed to my success and has touched me in a special way. May you hold onto your kind words and support and share them with others. To my fellow “Drawing the Shades” cast members, this is going to be a memory to hold on to. We have made great friendships through this rewarding experience, (thank you). I wish you the best of luck.

When I was chosen to be a Resident Assistant, I couldn’t wait to put my all into this position. I didn’t realize just how much work it was until my first night of duty, which I will never forget. It has truly been a

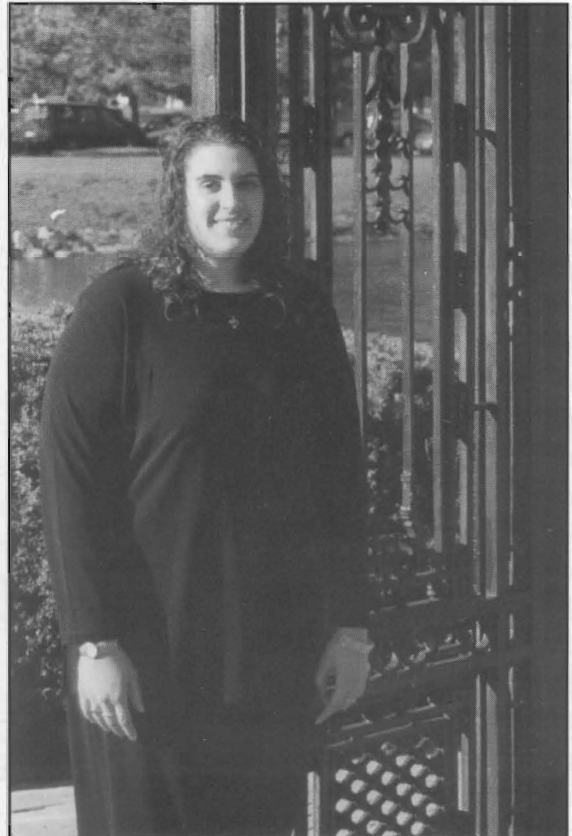
rewarding experience and I will never forget my residents who have touched me and shared a part of their lives with me. I have made some of the best friendships as an RA and it is going to be difficult to leave those behind. We have made it through difficult times and yes, there is a light at the end of the tunnel. To my fellow RAs, there is nothing better than hearing someone say thank you, you truly make a difference, don’t let that get away from you.

I finally was chosen to be an Orientation Leader after applying three times and it was one of the best experiences I could have asked for. I did things I never imagined doing. I sang and danced to the *YMCA (Why Are You Here)*, in front of hundreds of students and parents. I will never forget the experiences of stretching my boundaries and reaching the unreachable with my OL staff.

There are so many people that have touched my life here that it would take volumes of books to write about. One person I would like to thank is Doris. You have been like a second mother to me these past years and have taught me so many things. Your encouragement and motivation have helped me to become a stronger person and go after my dreams. I don’t know what I am going to do without you. You have touched my life in a way that will impact my decisions forever.

Finally, the most important people in my life, Mom, Dad, Scott and Nan. If it wasn’t for you, I would be lost. Thank you for your encouragement and support through the most difficult times and for your excitement through the happy times. I can never repay you for what you have given me, I can only show you that I have grown as a person in a million different ways.

To my fellow seniors, life is short, and the friendships you have made here can last a lifetime. We have learned from each other the importance of laughter, friendship and achievement. Let us leave here letting go of the past but carrying the memories forever. Don’t let go of those dreams, for “only those who dare to dream can make a dream come true.” Good luck with the next chapter of your life...



# \$100,000 Degree in Life

*By Allison Zitta*

It has been four years since we have stepped upon Tupper campus and gazed upon our future through the wrought iron of the Archway. Now we will soon be looking back through that same iron and stepping into our lives in the “real world”. College is a completely unique experience. Where else does one day’s time feel like the equivalent of a week’s worth of events? And exactly what are we leaving Bryant with? Well, at face value, we are leaving with a piece of paper with a historical cost of approximately \$100,000. Delving into it much deeper, each and every one of us is coming out of here with an extensive lesson in life.

Our lessons about life are compiled of so many memories that we will take away from here with us;

...the hurricane evacuation before we had even really started our college tenure...the first weekend of school freshman year witnessing the sea of people gathered in the townhouses...the first time we ate in Salmanson...the first warm day in spring where the campus seems to come alive and everyone plays outside...all of our roommates throughout our four years who some we have loved, and some who we have not...all of our professors throughout the years who some we have loved, and some we have not...all of the stress...feeling so closed in because of the campus, because of the people around us, because of the work...the sighs of relief when we cruised down Route Seven going away for break...the laughs we had with the people we feel most comfortable with when we came back from that break...the first interview we had for a “real job”...or

even things we still have to come like our last spring week...or our very first and last senior week...or even the realization that time is ticking and utterly precious so we must decide to capitalize on the time that we have left...

All of these memories and more have shaped us as mature adults, and in time will become more and more valuable.

Leaving Bryant, I can honestly say that I have no regrets. The reason being that I feel whatever positive or negative experiences I have had, I feel that they have become a

building block within me. Of course all of us will leave here with excellent technical knowledge and experience. But I feel that all of our hard work, effort and money, has gone towards a degree in managing life. So my message to the Class of 2000 ends like this. Thank you to everyone; all of my friends, all of my family, all of my acquaintances and all the unknowns—thank you. For it is you, it is every piece of Bryant in which that has contributed to my, and everyone else’s \$100,000 degree in life. Good luck to everyone and congratulations!





# A Journey Worth Taking

By Julianne Piccirilli



As I look back on four of the greatest years of my life, I have mixed feelings comprised of happiness and pride as well as sadness and a little anxiety. A feeling of self-accomplishment exists within all of us as the days of long hours studying, writing papers, and completing group projects are now behind us. But through it all, I have grown to love Bryant and am somewhat reluctant to say goodbye.

Do you remember the first day you arrived on campus as a freshman? Every one of us has his/her own unique story. Some of us couldn't wait for our parents to leave us so we could meet our new classmates; others wished we could return home and not have those nervous feelings inside. Some questions you might have asked yourself that day were: What if I don't meet people, what if I don't fit in, or what if I fail? Today, as we take our first step through the Archway, some of us are now experiencing those same emotions as we did when we took that initial step into Hall 14 or 15. Remember that things worked out for the best, we did meet new people, (some of whom became our best friends) we

got involved on campus, and we passed Economics and Accounting. Somehow those anxious feelings went away and many memories took place in between those two critical points. Reflect upon your time at Bryant and cherish each moment forever. Look forward to the future with excitement and hope but enjoy this day because it is one of the highest milestones of our lives. We all have made many sacrifices to get where we are on May 20, 2000. Be proud of the person who stands tall today.

Each of us has gotten involved on campus in our own ways. Within that student group, sports team, or sorority/fraternity, we have learned something about ourselves, challenged ourselves, and gained many great friendships. I would like to recognize in particular, the Student Senate for challenging me as a person to take a stand on important student issues and working on projects I believed in. I will always be grateful for learning and working with so many great leaders within the past four Student Senates, in particular the three senators I have worked with since freshman year: Brian, Bob, and Molly. I have watched them grow into prominent leaders on this campus and know they will succeed far in life.

And then there are those friends that have stuck by you through thick and thin; the people who have supported you through the best and the troublesome times of college life. Val and Brianne, I don't know what I would do without you. Thanks for a great year, E and Melissa. Hug those special people today and let them know how much they mean to you. Now is the best time.

Think about all the professors you have had during your college career. Which professors stick out in your mind that have encompassed enthusiasm in their teachings, made you look forward to going to class, who challenged you to work hard and to do well? I would like to acknowledge Professors Tim Brown, Ron Deluga, Burton Fischman, Patrick Keeley, and Kevin Pearce. They are exceptional professors who have enhanced my academic career at Bryant.

Thank the people who have helped you get to this day whether it be the people who have been there for you throughout your whole life or those who have touched your life recently. Words cannot express the admiration, respect, and love I have for two very special people, my Mom and Dad, the best coaches I could ever ask for. Alyssa, you have been my lifetime role model and I will always believe in you. I would not be where I am today without the tremendous love of my entire family. I know Grandpa is by my side today. He has given me blue skies on the days when I needed him most and for that I am grateful. "For all the wisdom of a lifetime, no one can ever tell but whatever road you choose, I'm right behind you win or lose." Michael, since high school we both have changed significantly; yet we have grown together because of love, laughter, and dreams.

Remember to give back to the people and places that have helped you to be the person you are today. Rise up to the challenges that await you. But never forget this incredible journey. "May good fortune be with you, may your guiding light be strong" -R. Stewart. Best wishes Class of 2000.

# It All Began With a Hurricane

*By Erica Nadeau*

As soon as we moved in freshman year, there was a hurricane warning and we were asked to evacuate campus. Some of us went home, relishing the fact that we could postpone the inevitable move into college for one more day. Others went to the MAC to spend a sleepless night meeting new people. Still others, like myself, decided to go home with our newfound friends. I left campus, shortly after arrival, with my roommate and another girl, Brianne, whom I had just met. This little adventure was the beginning of a friendship that has endured 4 years and will last forever.

After I returned from the hurricane evacuation, I was ready to begin my new life at Bryant College. I immediately got involved in activities and started to meet people. I first joined the Student Programming Board where I met the two greatest friends of my college career. Stef and Jamie, I could never express what it has meant that you have been there through all of the good times and the bad. You have made life at Bryant exciting and we will always remain friends.

During sophomore year, I became involved in Peer Education. This experience enhanced my life at Bryant. Not only did I meet many new friends, but I was also able to facilitate programs that helped to educate the community. Through Peer Ed I was able to become involved in "Drawing the Shades". This skit educates members of college communities about sexual assault. We each got involved for a different reason, but with the cast working together we were able to accomplish many great things. Thank you Peer Educators for helping me help

others and for always being there as a group to laugh with. Doris, what can I say, you are the best. You are always there and your tireless efforts make all of our programs and events possible. Thank you for a great four years.

Orientation of 1998 was the best ever. O those summer nights. Tanya you were great and always kept things lively. I do still wish that Christy's delivered though. Melissa, Allison, Jess, Julie, Kevin, Keri, Liz, Amy, Mark, Jeff, and Brian thanks for all of the memories. Marilyn, I can't even say how much you have meant to me over the last couple of years. Thank you for hiring me all those years ago, you have been my surrogate mother and I don't know what I would have done without you.

Finally senior year! K2 girls are the best. It all started with you all living upstairs from me and it just seems right that that is how it should end. You have gotten me through some hard times this year and I appreciate it. Julie, Val, Brianne and Melissa we definitely had some good times, I will forever miss Saturday night dinners and water fights.

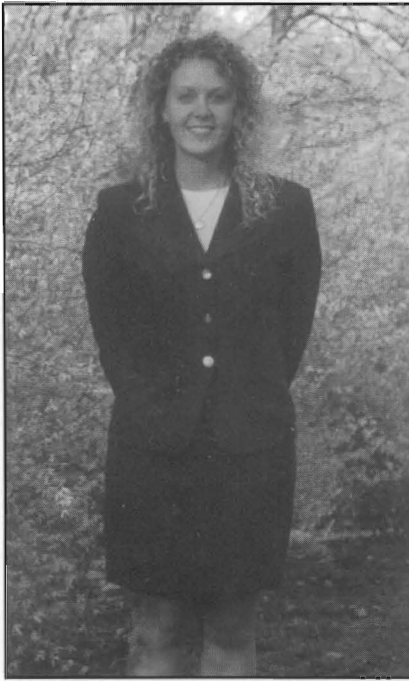
When I decided to come to Bryant four years ago, I knew exactly what I wanted to do. I was going to be an Accounting/CIS major, graduate, and get a job making a lot of money. Well 2 out of 3 isn't bad. Bryant has given me so much more than a great education. I have made



many good friends and gained immeasurable experiences. My past four years here have been the best they could possibly be. College has been about so much more than just going to class and doing homework. From being a chair on the Student Programming Board to the technical expert for Peer Education, it has been wonderful and I would not have traded this experience for anything. Thank you all for being there for me, through everything, from a million and one classes to just needing a friend. I love you all and I will truly miss each of you. You have all made a difference in my life and I will remember you always. Finally thank you Mom, Dad, Kristen, Amy and Emma for being there for me. Especially Mom, thank you for being there for me through those rough summers and letting me vent to you, I really appreciate all you have done for me.

Thank you Bryant, for a great four years. Good luck Class of 2000!





## “Give the World the Best You Have”

*By Amy Thistle*

very fun memories. It was also in my Freshmen year that I got involved with Peer Education and BACCHUS. Working with a very dedicated group of individuals we helped to educate the Bryant community on the dangers of drug and alcohol use. Doris, your dedication has not gone unnoticed. You are definitely helping to make a difference.

It was in my Sophomore year while volunteering for the Bryant Experience that I was introduced to Todd. Todd gave me the opportunity to work in the Conference Office. Working in the office with Todd and Sheila has been an unforgettable experience. I do not know where I would be today if it were not for them. They have helped me determine what I wanted to do after I leave Bryant. More importantly they have been my family away from home. Todd, you are like a big brother to me. It is going to be weird not to have you constantly picking on me. Sheila, you have been like a mother to me. Whenever I needed anything you were always there for me unconditionally. The times I have had with the two of you are not like any times I have had with anyone else. I will miss you tremendously next year.

It was in my Junior year that I was elected to the Senate. This has also been a wonderful experience. The Senate as an organization has never rested on what they have accomplished. They are constantly looking ahead to what they can do to make Bryant a better place. Working with the Senate I met a very special friend. “Beal”, you are the greatest. Thank you for always being there for me. You truly care. I will always cherish our “D&D” runs! To the rest of the senators, keep up the good

work. You have the power to accomplish great things.

Senior year has also been a year filled with new experiences and new adventures. Senior Wine and Cheeses, 2000 Hours to Graduation, Jamaica - No Problem Mon, need I say anymore.

There are many people who I have to thank for making these four years the best they could possible be. First, my best friend, Liz. What can I say? You have been there for me through thick and thin. We have shared many happy times and you have been there to help me through the worst of times. I have never met anyone like you. You are the definition of a “Best Friend”. Please know that I will always be there for you. Candy, Carolyn, Nicole and Marybeth, we have spent day in and day out the last four years together. I do not know what I will do next year not seeing your smiling faces every day and sharing stories with you. You guys are the best!

Lastly, I would like to thank my family, my entire family. You all have been so incredibly supportive over the last four years. I can not thank you enough for that. Mom and Dad, I hope I have made you proud. Thank you for giving me the ability to take full advantage of life. I owe you the world! Kristen and Laurie, you two mean more to me than words can say. I am so proud of everything that you are. Thank you for allowing me to be who I am. I love you!

To my fellow classmates “It is almost impossible to watch a sunset and not dream”. Look on our graduation as a sunset. The sun is setting on part of our life. It is now time to dream of what is to come. Thank you all for an unforgettable four years.

As Senior year winds down my concerns are no longer what will I do this Thursday night or what classes will I take next semester. My concerns are more long lasting. What will I be doing for work? Where will I live? Will I like my job? Will my friends live close by? One thing I am not concerned with is mine and my classmates’ ability to succeed. Bryant College has given us the knowledge to gain the power necessary to succeed in life and in our careers.

When I began to move my sister into Hall 14 this past summer it felt like it was just yesterday that I myself was moving into Hall 14, ready to begin my 4 year adventure that would eventually lead me into the real world. The four years I have spent at Bryant have been a tremendously fulfilling portion of my life. They have been an experience that I would not trade for the world.

Freshmen year I had the opportunity to live with the most outstanding group of girls. Liz, Marybeth, Carolyn, Nicole, Aim, Allison, Candy, Nith, and Molly, you guys are the best. We share some

# There Is A Lot We Do Not Know About Tomorrow

*By Molly Devanney*

I would like to just start off by thanking all of my colleagues for the past four years we have shared together. We are all beginning a new chapter in our lives and I would like to wish all of you the best of luck!

I would like to thank the faculty and administration for all the support that they have been throughout the past few years. President Machtley, Dr. Eakin thanks for the never ending support that you have given to our class and to Bryant day in and out. Judy thanks for the endless conversations and the continuous knowledge that you have shared with us. Fr. Joe, Bob Sloss, Mike Janicki, Tonya McGinn, and Rev. Dev thanks for everything you do to make Bryant a better place to be a part of.

Thanks to the Bryant faculty that have been such a tremendous wealth of knowledge and challenged each and every one of us to reach our academic potential. **Dr. Freiligh**, "Doc" Fischman, Dr. Deluga, Dr. "Terri"

Hasseler, Dr. Lyons, Professor Pearce, thanks for making me think outside of my boundaries, you all have challenged me to explore the unknown place that I have and I have learned so much from each of you.

Thank you, Julie, Bob, and Brian for all of the support that you have given to me. The special times that we have had together throughout the years, you have taught me what it is like to be a leader, even in the tough times that we all face. You are role models to me and I will never forget all of our times together. Beal, and Jaime, thanks for the last two years you have always been there for me. Senators, thanks for all of the special times that we have had together, you are the ones who I want to thank for making my experiences on Senate so great, and I wish you all the best of luck.

Thanks to all of the offices that have been such a **support** to the Senate over the years, **such as** Bryant Center Operations, Office of Student Ac-

tivities, and The Archway, Andrea thanks for helping with me everything!

To my girls: Jen, Carolyn, Laura, Busky, Candy, Nikki, Jaime, Marybeth, Liz, Amy, Kristina, Brega, Meghan, Kelly, Cathy, Allison, we have had some great times here and thanks for all you have done for me. Spring breaks, car rides, nights in Providence, Such a Bagel, you have all been such a huge support and the best friends anyone could ever ask for! Boys I love you all! Thanks for making me change! I have had a great time at Bryant and you have made this possible. For the Boys of Hall 3 fourth floor, thanks for being the best residents that anyone could ever ask for. Divining in trees, boat racing and Jimmy Buffett will always remind me of you.

Rugby Girls Suzie, Allison, Terri, Katy, Jessica, Heather, Deanna, Tricia, Katie, thanks for all of the times that we have had together, the spring flings, initiations, spring weeks, practices, Skip and Cliff, Memories to laugh a lifetime! MB I will never forget the nana outfit! Good luck to all of you thanks for always supporting me in everything that I have done.

Jen, thanks for being the best roommate anyone could ever ask for, thanks for the late night chats, dealing with my family and always laughing. There is nothing that a bag of Doritos and a Diet Coke wouldn't fix.

To my Family: Mom and Dad what can I say. I am the person I am today because of you and the example that you have shown me. John, Christine, Cathleen, Mandy, Tim, all I can say is Thanks! I love you!

Bryant College thanks for everything! Class of 2000 Good Luck, and thanks for the memories!





# "It is the Journey, Not the Destination that Counts."

By Brian McCarthy

Well, this is it, the end of our college careers. As I am sure, many of us are sad and happy all in the same emotion – if that is at all possible. It is unbelievable that it was four years ago that I waved goodbye to my family as they dropped me off to college, and now I have to wave goodbye to my new family here at Bryant. College: it is a vicious cycle, but it sure is fun while it lasts.

You may have heard of a quote saying something like, "It is the journey, not the destination that counts." That quote could not be any more true. The things that you learn along the way are what count the most. Don't get me wrong, everyone wants a good job at the end of college, but the end of one journey is only a starting point for another.

This message is for underclassmen: GET INVOLVED. Take advantage of everything that Bryant has to offer. Otherwise you are not getting your money's worth. Not only will it look good on your resume; you will have the time of your life! The chance to step up and become a student leader is truly a golden opportunity. It will open so many doors for you; doors that you never knew existed. You will get

the opportunity to interact and learn from other people who have a radiating sense of determination, passion, and vision that makes one great. The attributes you see here are not always plentiful, but once you have experienced them, it will change your life.

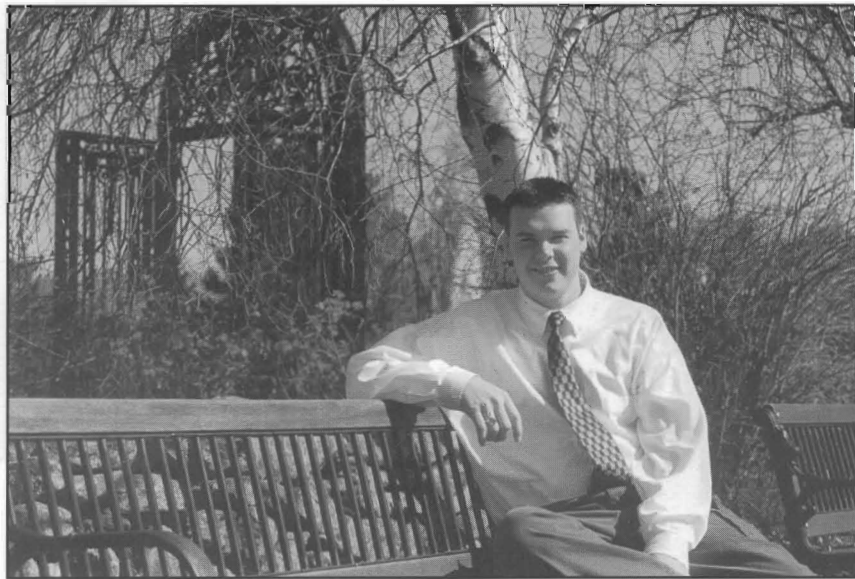
This is a message to the parents: LISTEN TO YOUR CHILDREN. If my parents never listened or believed in me, I would not be walking through the Archway today. Let them tell you what they want to do in life, and support their decisions. They will never do something that they hate doing, so you might as well have them do something they love and watch them succeed. John F. Kennedy once said, "Only those who dare to fail greatly, can ever achieve greatly." So, let them try things that they might fail at, it is the only way one can truly learn.

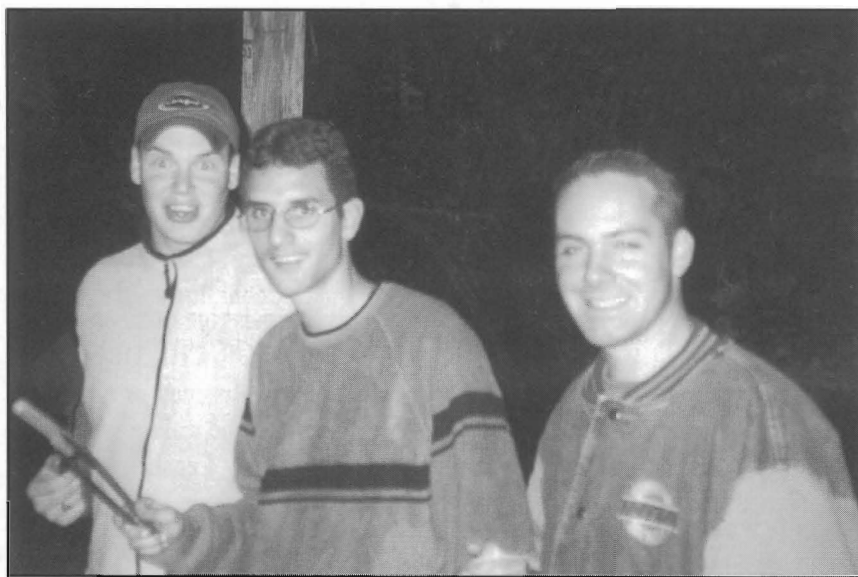
This is a message to my class: KEEP TRYING HARDER. Ok, I am not the wisest person on earth, so you don't have to take my advice, I am only offering what works for me. We have been trained rather well at Bryant to become solid business leaders, so what will separate us from the competition? Persistence, dedication, and good old hard work. That is it. Other students

may be graduating with higher GPAs or more involvement, so this is the only way to beat them. Yeah, we may be a little competitive, but why not?

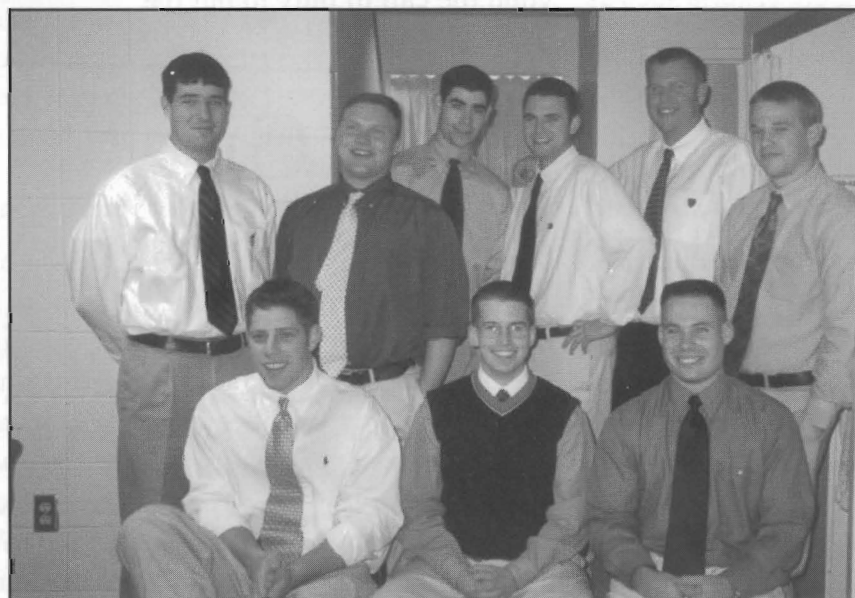
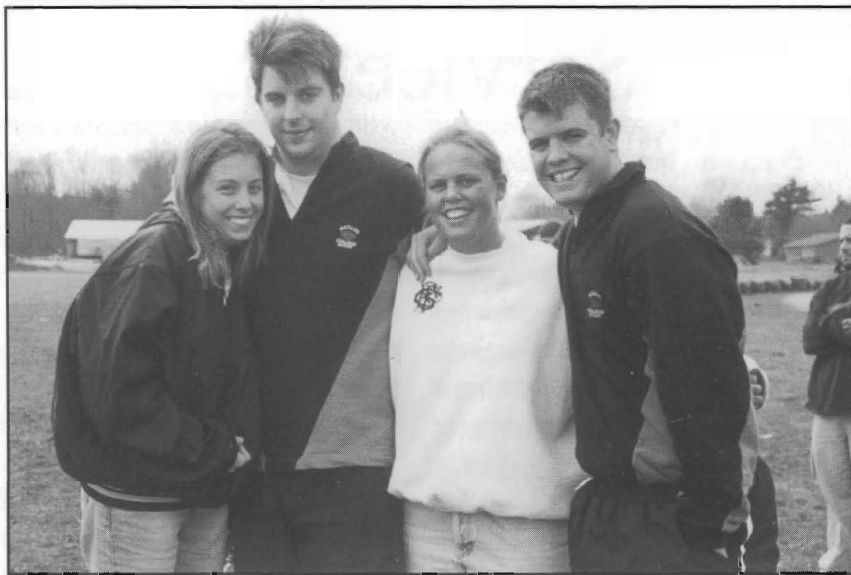
Well, I can't get away without thanking some people, but I have to put a disclaimer on this section of my article: If I do not list you under my thank yous, I still deeply appreciate your contribution to my life. Honestly, EVERYONE who I met at Bryant has contributed to my life, seriously, everyone. Ok, I have to start with my family. Dad, you always know the right path to go down, why I don't listen to you more often is beyond me. I can always count on you for love and solid guidance. Mom, you are the light of my life, that pretty much sums it up. I just wish you could be here with us all. I love you. Jack, you have been the best big brother anyone could ask for, except for the headlocks and making me eat grass...just kidding. AnneMarie, you have been the best leaning post I could have. You were always there with your great dinners and soothing conversations. Aunt Carol, Uncle Harry, Aunt Ann, Mike, P.J, Maureen, Amy, Tara, Aunt Mary Ellen, Uncle Larry, you all have been more of an inspiration to me than you know. Lisa, you are the single best thing that has ever happened to me. The Wayno's, you guys are my second family, and I am proud to say that! Shawn, you have been there for me through everything, I owe you my life and eternal friendship. Bob, you have followed me through everything at Bryant. I hope that we can follow each other through life. Thanks: Sean K., Matt D., Prof. Ken S., Sharon R., Fran, Tim L., Bob S., RA staff, Senate, VP Tom E., Dave F., F6.

Thank you all very much, best of luck, and God Bless.









## Senior Service

Student Senate Senior Service Awards are presented to six deserving students of the graduating class to recognize their outstanding service to the student body of Bryant College.

Recipients are selected by the Student Senate Service Awards Committee.

Nominees are evaluated on five different criteria such as

their willingness to work with clubs and organizations, their stature among their peers, accomplishing goals that enhance Bryant student life throughout their Bryant years, and their eligibility as a degree candidate.

This year's award winners exemplify those characteristics. They went above and beyond the call of duty to put the

needs of the students first. Congratulations to each Senior Service Award Recipient.

Shawn Beal  
Melissa Frank  
Brian McCarthy  
Mark Oesterreich  
Julianne Piccirilli  
Jeremy Stannard

## Class Gift

The first graduating class of the new millennium will begin a new tradition of giving at Bryant College with a five-year pledge campaign. Our objective is to have an area in the new Bryant quadrangle, which serve as an integral part of it. This new section of the quadrangle will be dedicated to our class. Julie Piccirilli, class gift chair devised a committee of 17 motivated senior leaders who have brainstormed at weekly meetings since the

beginning of September 1999. At the Halloween Bash, which benefited the senior class gift, on October 28<sup>th</sup>, we received senior inputs on gift ideas and from those results we anticipate a brick pathway or a brick circular area with all Class of 2000 members' names engraved on them. A decision on the final project cannot be made until the objectives of new quadrangle are decided on. However, the gift committee members will be working with the Development

Office on the final gift project as well as all newsletters and updates of this important project. All seniors who pledge to the gift will be asked to give feedback once we know the final recommendations of the college.

We hope that all seniors will continue to support our "New Vision for a New Century" as the Class of 2000 is the first class to make a gift towards the Campaign objectives, a gift that will help fulfill the Campus Master Plan.

## Class Flag

Bryant College extends its gratitude to the late Emeritus Honorary Trustee George J. Kelley '39, '69H for his generosity in providing on-going support for the purchase and display of a graduating Class Flag. The Class of 2000 Class Flag was designed by seniors Greg Giacinto and John Hartwell.



On behalf of the graduating class of 2000, I would like to extend a very sincere welcome to family, friends, and teachers who have made this day possible. Your dedication and patience is truly a gift, and we are most appreciative.

I am sure I speak for all us graduates when I say we have waited a long time for this day. I am sure that I also speak for all of us when I say that this has to be the most frightening day of our lives. What are we to expect tomorrow? In a year? 5 years? 10 years? We may not know what will happen in the future, but we all have invested our time and energy here at Bryant College to see what our future holds and to try to make the best of it.

The past few years we have spent countless hours in the classroom listening to lectures, taking notes, and studying for exams – **all** to learn the fundamentals of our various majors. Our willingness to learn and the devotion of our instructors have taught us to become professionals in our field. This senior class came to Bryant to acquire a meaningful education and more specifically to learn the complex inner workings of business and administration. We have learned to speak effectively in public, to use our business skills to our utmost advantage, and become competitive in our respective fields. Our knowledge is indeed robust, and today we come together to celebrate our remarkable accomplishments.

However, our college experience has not been solely in the classroom. We spent many hours outside the classroom staring at computer monitors, reading books, solving problems, and writing papers. And all of you know just as well as I

do that as senior year came along, those papers had increasingly wider margins and larger fonts! We participated in group projects from time to time, sometimes with people we got along with and sometimes with people, well, let's just say we didn't get along with. Academics provided us a constant learning experience from the moment we woke up in the morning to the time we went to sleep at night.

Just as importantly, however, our time at Bryant has been a time of growing up, meeting new people, and experiencing good and bad times in an environment that for many of us, is miles from home. Certainly, nobody here can forget their *first* roommate, their *first* class, or their longing for Mom's home-cooked meals after our *first* taste of cafeteria food. But these are simply things that we can look back upon with a smile, knowing that they were small steps in the never-ending road that we call *experience*. We know that there are many more *first experiences* to come.

The good times have been plentiful. Surely, we can remember the times that we partied with our friends, or the time that we meet that special someone—or someone we thought was special. And there was the time we laughed with people during their 21<sup>st</sup> birthday, and the time they laughed with us the morning after our 21<sup>st</sup> birthday. There was a certain excitement when we went away on our first road trip with friends and when we went on our first Spring Break. We were thrilled when we earned our first A on an exam. We were proud when we got our first internship, and we are ecstatic today, the first day we are officially college graduates. These are all days worth

remembering.

However, not all times have been good times. We have all had our share of bad days — pressure to meet deadlines, times of immense stress, loneliness and doubts. Many of us have said at one time or another, “I just don't know about this semester, I just feel like giving up.” But we did not give up. We could not give up. In fact, we are all here today to celebrate our “Not Giving Up.”

How did we manage? What kept us going? Take a look around. Here are our family and friends. Here are the people who did not let us quit, who led us along when our paths seemed unbearable. Thanks to them, we have made our way to graduation together, and together, we have learned how to be our best, how to do our best.

As your peer, I cannot, and will not attempt to, offer you any revolutionary advice that will change your life. But I can say this: look to your college years for inspiration and examples as you move on to your careers and your life. Whatever it takes, do not give up. And don't think you can do everything on your own. Take time to make new friends as well as continue the friendships you already have. You'll want friends and family to support you when you are in need and to celebrate with you when you succeed.

Save a special place for the people who are most special. In my case, there is nobody more special to me than my father. My dad made many sacrifices throughout his life in order to see that I had the opportunities that he did not have growing up. And for that, Dad, I say, sincerely, “Thanks.”

*(Continued on page 16)*

# Commencement Awards

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## **Brian McCarthy**

### *George M. Parks Award*

This award is presented to the bachelor's degree candidate who has done the most to enhance the reputation of the College through the intelligent use of recognized leadership qualities.

## **Shawn E. Beal**

### *Roger W. Babson Award*

This award is presented to the bachelor's degree candidate who has become distinguished within the College community because of character, orderly mind, sound judgement, and systematic business habits.

## **Pamela K. Bredikin**

### **Jessica L. Dodge**

#### *George J. Kelly Award*

This award is presented to the graduating senior scheduled to complete all degree requirements in May, who at the end of the fall semester had attempted and completed 102 credits at Bryant College, and is recognized and honored for having the highest cumulative grade point average at the end of the fall semester.

## **Meghan Leis**

### *Jeremiah Clark Barber Award*

This award is presented to the bachelor's degree candidate who has shown the most consistent record of improvement in mastering the subject matter of a specific academic program.

## **Jeffery T. Gates**

### *Kappa Tau Brotherhood Award*

This award is presented to the graduate who has exhibited outstanding brotherhood and leadership on promoting policies beneficial to Bryant College and the entire student body. This award is given by the Kappa Tau Fraternity.

## **Julianne Piccirilli**

### *Good Citizenship Award*

This award is presented to the graduate who has demonstrated the qualities of sincerity and vigorous industry in the interest of good citizenship and who has, by example, furthered better government both on and off campus.

## **Jonathan White**

### *Pell Medal for US History*

This award is presented to a graduate who has displayed excellence in the study of United States history. Rhode Island's Senator, the Honorable Claiborne de Borda Pell, presents this medal to honor the memory of his father, the late Herbert C. Pell, statesman and diplomat, who served the United States as Ambassador to Hungary and Minister to Portugal.

## **Hrushikesh Mehta**

### *The Wall Street Journal Award*

This award is presented annually to a graduate who has shown distinction in fields of economics, finance and investments.

## **Erica L. Nadeau**

### *Rhode Island*

#### *Society of Certified Public Accountants Award*

This Award is presented to a graduate who, in the opinion of the faculty of the Department of Accounting, has demonstrated excellence in accounting studies and intends to pursue a career in public accounting.

## **Donna L. Taft**

### *Leander Francis*

#### *Emin Endowed*

#### *HomeStead Award*

This award is presented to a graduate who has demonstrated scholastic excellence in Accounting. This award was inaugurated by the family of Leader Francis Emin. Bryant Alumnus of the class of 1907, to honor his memory, his birthplace and home, the 1708 house, and the entire Emin homestead farm and airport, which has now become the campus of his alma mater.

## **Corey Lamirande**

### *Reserve Officer*

#### *Training Corps*

#### *Achievement Award*

This award is presented to a bachelor's degree candidate who has excelled in his/her military science studies and other courses and who has shown superior leadership potential in the military science program and in extracurricular activities.



**Stanley Granovski**

**Melissa Gouin**

*John Hancock*

*Insurance Company Award*

The John Hancock Insurance Award is presented to two students who have demonstrated superior achievement in the study of Applied Actuarial Mathematics.

**Bethany L. Bulger**

*Communication Award*

This award is presented to a graduate who has demonstrated an outstanding achievement in the area of Communication.

**Susan McDonald**

*Literary Studies Award*

This award is presented to a graduate who has demonstrated an outstanding achievement in the area of Literary Studies.

**Marlene E. McCormick**

*International Studies*

This award is presented to a graduate who has demonstrated an outstanding achievement in the area of International Studies.

**Timothy R. Gulesorian**

*Legal Studies Award*

This award is presented to a graduate who has demonstrated an outstanding achievement in the area of Legal Studies.

**Tov Birke-Haueisen**

*Male Senior Scholar*

*Athlete of the Year Award*

This award is presented to the senior male and female athlete with the highest GPA.

**Nicole Cormier**

*Female Senior Scholar*

*Athlete of the Year Award*

This award is presented to the senior male and female athlete with the highest GPA.

**Jessica L. Dodge**

**Anthony A. Deluca**

*Anna M & Jere St. Angelo '61*

*Accounting Awards*

These awards are presented to graduating seniors in Accounting who are in the top ten percent of their class, are residents of an urban area, and have a proven need.

**Daniel Pepin**

*CIS Award*

This award is presented annually to a graduate with a concentration in Computer Information Systems who has excelled academically, has enriched his/her CIS education through meaningful work experience, and has demonstrated an unselfish attitude toward others through his/her active involvement in organizations, clubs, or events.

**Jeremy E. Stannard**

*Jack Rubens Leadership  
in Finance Award*

This award is presented to a graduate who has demonstrated outstanding performance in academics, service to the finance department, and enthusiasm and leadership in extracurricular activities related to finance.

**Miles Bozinov**

*Political Science Award*

This award is presented to a graduate who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in the area of Political Science.

**Melanie Carrier**

*Psychology Award*

This award is presented to a graduate who has demonstrated an outstanding achievement in the area of Psychology.

**Andrew Levesque**

*Sociology Award*

This award is presented to a graduate who has demonstrated an outstanding achievement in the area of Sociology.

# Honorary Degrees

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## Undergraduate Commencement

**David S. Wetherell**, the keynote speaker, is chairman and CEO of CMGI, a firm with a portfolio of more than 70 Internet companies including stakes in companies such as AltaVista, Lycos and iCAST. Wetherell effected a leveraged buyout of CMGI and has served as chairman and CEO since 1986. He will receive a Doctor of Humane Letters.

Previously, he co-founded the software development firm Softrend, Inc., and has held senior management positions in application software development and marketing management in the health care and transportation industries.

He was recently featured on the covers of *Business Week* and *Boston Magazine*.

Also receiving honorary degrees are **O. Rogerie Thompson**, Superior Court Judge, State of Rhode Island, and **Rajendra B. Vattikuti**, president and CEO, Complete Business Solutions Inc.

**Judge Thompson** became Rhode Island's first black woman justice of the Superior Court in 1997. Prior to her current position, she was a member of the Rhode Island District Court bench for 10 years. Before being nominated to the judiciary, Judge Thompson was a partner in the law firm of Thompson and Thompson, specializing in Native American law, civil rights, personal injury, family, and real estate law. She was a member of Bryant's board of trustees from 1988 to 1997.

**Vattikuti**, founder of Complete Business Solutions Inc. (CBSI), has served as president and chief executive officer and as a director since its formation in 1985. The company provides a variety of information technology services, including software development, package software implementation, contract programming, and IT strategy mainly to mid-sized clients in the financial services, health care, manufacturing, retail, and utility industries. CBSI has been public since 1997 and had sales of more than \$462 million in 1999.

Before founding CBSI, Vattikuti was director of management information systems for the former Yurika Foods Corporation and prior to that was with the Chrysler Corporation.

## Senior Class Charge

(Continued from page 13)

What we have and cherish today can very easily be gone tomorrow. So, be ethical and honest in all that you do, and take time to give something back. Success is not measured by how much you carry along the road of life; it is measured by how much you leave behind and the people that you affect the most. Certainly, be happy. If there is something you always wanted to do, something that you always wanted to try, there is no better time to do it than right now. The next speech you listen to may be at your wedding, your child's graduation, or even at your retirement party. Life is short. Our goals are many, and our talents are vast. We are leaving a piece of our lives behind today, but we are also opening the door to an unimaginable amount of opportunity. Go out and make the best of it.

Thank you very much.  
George Giacinto



# From the Dean of Students



Dear Graduates:

You came to Bryant one person and are leaving another. Today you celebrate a truly great accomplishment. It is cause for pride for you and all those who care about you and have supported you in this effort. The faculty and staff of the college join in the celebration of your success.

College is an accumulation of many experiences. You have developed key skills and qualities. Of equal importance, your perspective has changed and you've matured. You are ready for new challenges and opportunities.

This time of commencement is also a beginning. You now enter a professional world where you will compete on a higher plane. Each step of the way you will draw on your personal and professional qualities and skills. I am confident that with hard work and a commitment to continuous learning you will be successful.

As time goes on, you will value even more your Bryant College experience. Stay in touch and, if possible, stay involved with us. Best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,

Dr. J. Thomas Eakin  
Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students

# From the Editors

Dear Graduates:

The Commencement Issue of *The Archway* is a culmination of your time at Bryant College. These are your memories and accomplishments. We congratulate all of you. It is with great pride that we present this special issue of *The Archway* to you. It is our hope that you will look at it, when you wish to remember this important day.

Our best wishes to you in the future. May you go into the world with the same enthusiasm that you have displayed during your four years at Bryant College.

Sincerely,

Andrea M. Piccarelli  
Co-Editor-in-Chief Publishing

Adam Fontaine  
Co-Editor-in-Chief Business

